



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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State Health Benefit Plan Extends Notification Period For Medicare Part D Enrollees

ATLANTA – The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) and the State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) is allowing an extension period for SHBP members enrolled in Medicare Part D to submit necessary documentation for a reduced monthly premium. SHBP members have until January 31 to submit verification of Medicare D enrollment and be eligible for a reduced monthly premium of \$32.20 per person or \$64.40 per family.

The Department had initially required SHBP members enrolled in Medicare Part D to submit verification of enrollment by December 31. Submission of information by members has been slower than anticipated; therefore, this extension will allow members additional time to mail or fax enrollment verification to the Plan.

“Our records indicate only 16,000 of the 62,000 Medicare eligible retirees and dependents have submitted their Part D notification,” said Dr. Rhonda Medows, newly appointed commissioner of the Department of Community Health. “We want to give our Medicare members every opportunity to take advantage of a reduced monthly premium based on their Part D enrollment.”

Members should mail or fax verification documents such as their Part D prescription card, enrollment confirmation letter or enrollment application to:

State Health Benefit Plan
Post Office Box 38342
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Fax # 404-651-5750

SHBP members eligible for Medicare who do not enroll in Medicare Part D will pay additional premiums of \$64.40 per person or \$128.80 per family for coverage beginning March 2006.

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